



March Commission Meeting

March 20, 2020

Conference Call

Iowa

Meeting Book - Iowa College Student Aid Commission

March 2020 Agenda

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Wiederspan

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Mulholland

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Fitzgibbon

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UPCOMING MEETING DATES:
May 15, 2020

IOWA COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION

Executive Director's Report

March 2020

Welcome to Our New Commissioner

Governor Kim Reynolds has appointed Melissa Hidalgo to represent Iowa college students on our Board of Commissioners. Melissa is studying social work at Grand View University. Her term began January 24 and will run through June 30, 2022.

Customer Satisfaction Survey

We have completed our 2020 survey of financial aid directors at 51 colleges and universities in Iowa. Our response rate was 51 percent, with the highest response rate by sector coming from community colleges (80 percent). Overall, respondents strongly agreed that Iowa College Aid staff respond to questions within 24 hours, demonstrate subject matter expertise, and administer state aid programs effectively. They also gave high marks to the Iowa College Aid Processing System (ICAPS®). To put the positive feedback into perspective, the last time we administered the survey in 2017, Iowa College Aid received an average score of 4.33 across survey questions. For the 2020 survey, the average score was closer to 4.68.

College Success AmeriCorps

We expanded our AmeriCorps program in fall 2019, partnering with community colleges in a pilot program to support Future Ready Iowa Last-Dollar Scholarship and Future Ready Iowa Grant recipients from summer transition through degree completion. This model includes Success Coaches at partner community colleges, assistance for high schools to expand summer transition efforts, and a statewide texting campaign.

The Future Ready Iowa Texting Program serves as a virtual coach, providing students who opt in with timely reminders, as well as live interaction with a dedicated staff member. The campaign has been in place just over three months. As of March 9, we have nearly 1,000 students in the system and have sent 4,701 text messages. Engagement levels are 48.7 percent for Future Ready Iowa Last-Dollar Scholarship recipients, 59.9 percent for GEAR UP Iowa students, and 29.3 percent for general high school populations across the state.

College Access AmeriCorps

The growth of our AmeriCorps program in fall 2019 also included the launch of Student Leader positions in high schools. These high schools seniors work as peer mentors to support the College Application Campaign, FAFSA Completion Initiative, and College Decision Day. This program currently serves 21 high schools, with 25 Student Leaders on track to complete their service. Student Leaders serve a 300-hour term and earn a \$2,884 stipend. Upon completion, they will

receive a \$1,289 education award, which they can use to pay for college. A high school must be an Iowa College Aid Course to College Partner Site to host Student Leaders.

Last-Dollar Scholarship

On March 6, we reported initial numbers for fall, winter, and spring disbursements of the Future Ready Iowa Last-Dollar Scholarship. To date, 6,460 students have received just over \$12.6 million. Four in five were 20 and older.

Latino Postsecondary Attainment Month

Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds accepted a request from the Latino College Access Network (Latinos CAN) to declare April as Latino Postsecondary Attainment Month. She signed the proclamation on Monday, March 16. Latinos CAN is a statewide college access network currently in Year 1.

LCAN Grants

Local College Access Network FY21 grant applications will open April 1 for new and continuing applicants. Four potential new applicants participated in an informational call on March 2. Final submissions are due May 15, and awards will begin in July. Grants support the creation of LCANs to increase college attainment in a specific geographic location or for a specific population.

GEAR UP Iowa Conference

On May 5, GEAR UP Iowa will host a conference to close out the final year working with partner high schools and transition to partner colleges. The event will celebrate the successes of the grant while reflecting on best practices learned across our 12 partner districts. We welcome the attendance of any interested Commissioners; location to be announced but will be in the Des Moines metro area.

College Decision Day

College Decision Day registration is open for Course to College schools. Events throughout May will celebrate and recognize students' decisions to continue education after high school. Last year, 54 high schools and 8,100 students took part. We encourage Commissioners to attend an event; we will distribute a list of dates and locations as they are scheduled.

New Academy Courses

Initial development is under way for two new courses in the Iowa College & Career Readiness Academy. One course will focus on college and career readiness strategies for K-5 school counselors and educators. The other course will support professionals who work with foster care

and system-involved youth. Iowa College Aid staff will coordinate work groups to create these courses. Tentatively, the new courses will roll out for the fall 2020 session.

Connecting Education to Work Conference

On February 18 and 19, Commissioner Jeremy Varner, Representative Cindy Winckler, and I attended the Education Commission of the States' (ECS) "Connecting Education to Work" conference in North Carolina. Iowa was one of four states selected to participate in this event. The conference provided an opportunity to view Gallup Survey data on public perceptions of postsecondary education in relation to career goals. Survey results were specific to Iowa respondents. For example, among those individuals with less than an associate's degree and not currently enrolled in college, 36 percent perceived the need for additional education. This result, however, varied according to one's demographic background, as the perceived need for additional education was highest for Hispanics, Asians, women, and those with vocational degrees. We are still in the process of working with ECS on the development of a state report.

InSpirit Institute

At our November meeting, the Board of Commissioners authorized Iowa College Aid to issue an Order to Show Cause why we should not order InSpirit Institute, a massage school in Dubuque, to cease operations for failure to comply with state requirements. During the last week of February, the school closed abruptly and was evicted from its offices, and the owner moved to Florida. Having received complaints from students in the previous weeks that they were unable to access their transcripts, our State Authorization team moved quickly to secure student records. They traveled to Dubuque, where InSpirit's office manager voluntarily surrendered available hard copies of student records, which are now stored securely in our offices.

COVID-19

With COVID-19 cases confirmed in Iowa, we are conducting an inventory of our IT equipment and have distributed a survey of staff members to determine who has the technology and security to work from home. The Grants and Scholarships team is assessing the possible impact of campus closures and online-only classes on financial aid awards. The Governor's Office and Department of Administrative Services are keeping our agency informed and working on guidance for state agencies. We are taking proactive measures to ensure that the agency can operate if there is a significant COVID-19 outbreak in Iowa.

IOWA COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting January 24, 2020

Members Present

Michael Ash
Manny Atwood
Sherry Bates
Tim Fitzgibbon

Katie Mulholland
Herman Quirmbach
Doug Shull
Barbara Sloniker

Emily Stork
Jeremy Varner
Cindy Winckler

Members Absent

Cecil Dolecheck

Tim Kraayenbrink

Mark Putnam

AG Present

Emily Willits

Staff Present

Todd Brown
Prasanna Bujimalla
Jennifer Christensen
Karen Misjak

Julie Ntem
Lisa Pundt
Elizabeth Keest Sedrel
Christina Sibaouih

Carolyn Small
Jayne Smith
Mark Wiederspan

Guests Present

Gary Adams
Angela Carlson
Mary Jacobsen
Robin Madison

Iowa Student Loan
Capri College
Aspire Servicing Center
Legislative Services Agency

Call to Order

The Iowa College Student Aid Commission met for a regularly scheduled meeting on January 24, 2020, in Room 116 at the Iowa State Capitol, 1007 E. Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA. Commission Chair Mulholland called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

Executive Director's Report

Dr. Wiederspan reported that more than 150 people attended the Assessing the Future conference on college readiness, access, and affordability on November 20, 2019. Keynote speakers included Dr. Brian Prescott from the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) and Dr. David Tandberg from State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO). Other presenters included representatives from ACT, the Education Commission of the States, college presidents, Iowa legislators, the Board of Regents, and community colleges. Dr. Wiederspan reported that two-thirds of survey respondents found the presentations relevant to their jobs. He noted that negative feedback mostly reflected the high volume of information presented in the short timeframe. This feedback will be considered for planning future events.

Dr. Wiederspan said the Fall Enrollment and Home Base Iowa reports were released on December 2, 2019. The Fall Enrollment Report breaks down enrollment by gender, sector, and enrollment intensity. In general, there has been an overall drop of 2% in college enrollment. He explained the report provides up-to-date information on college enrollment in Iowa.

In response to a question from Commissioner Sloniker, Dr. Wiederspan said enrollment has been trending down since the Great Recession. He added that more research is needed to uncover contributing factors. Senator Quirnbach stated that college enrollment is typically countercyclical to the economy. The challenge will be getting a larger percentage of the rising cohort to attend college, because the need for skilled workers will not decrease. Representative Winckler added that David Swenson from Iowa State University published a paper concerning job growth in Iowa being lower than national average, and speculated that this may contribute to declining enrollment.

Dr. Wiederspan reported on the Home Base Iowa Report that details college enrollment by veterans in Iowa. The report mirrors the Fall Enrollment Report in that the number of veterans enrolling in college is also declining.

Both the Fall Enrollment Report and the Home Base Iowa Report are available on the Iowa College Aid website's Higher Education Data Center.

Dr. Wiederspan provided an update on the Last-Dollar Scholarship fall 2019 awards. The final numbers reflect 6,032 students received \$6,818,758, with an average award of \$1,130. Roughly 4 in 5 Last-Dollar Scholarship recipients were adult learners.

Dr. Wiederspan said the first automated FAFSA reports of the 2019-20 academic year were sent in December. This is the second year Iowa College Aid has provided the report, and all 342 public high schools in Iowa receive it. The FAFSA reports inform high school counselors which seniors have not submitted, or have not completed, the FAFSA. This allows school counselors to provide targeted support to students.

Dr. Wiederspan reported Iowa's FAFSA completion rate was approximately 41% as of January 15. At this time last year, the rate was closer to 30%. Schools with strong program engagement, such as GEAR UP Iowa schools, demonstrated significant gains in FAFSA completion rates. In response to a question from Commissioner Bates, Dr. Wiederspan explained that the report contains a detailed listing of which students have completed the FAFSA and which have not. Student-school counselor engagement is not monitored.

Commissioner Atwood verified the FAFSA Completion Report is detailed and easy to understand. Dr. Wiederspan added there is 100% participation in Iowa public high schools and participation is voluntary.

Dr. Wiederspan said GEAR UP Iowa Year 7 College Partner Grants were announced on December 17. Nine colleges and universities in Iowa will receive partner grants to support GEAR UP Iowa students as they transition from high school to college. He said college programs will be specific to their campus culture, but the most common intervention is a summer bridge, designed to engage students with their campus over the summer.

Representative Winckler said she attended a Future Ready Iowa presentation in Davenport. She noticed GEAR UP Iowa was not mentioned as a pre-apprenticeship program but she hopes Iowa College Aid programs can start exploring this designation.

Dr. Wiederspan said the January 2 launch of the Future Ready Iowa Texting Program was successful. The introductory message went to 234 students and had an engagement rate of 20%, with most questions relating to financial aid. He said the initiative targets prospective and current Future Ready Iowa Last-Dollar Scholarship and Future Ready Iowa Grant recipients. The program will be available to all students in Iowa. Staff are excited about the potential positive impact of the texting program.

Commissioner Fitzgibbon asked if students in the texting program agreed to be contacted in an automated way. Dr. Wiederspan replied that students opt in to receiving the text messaging services, and Ms. Sibaouih would present additional information regarding texting program later.

Dr. Wiederspan shared the creation of dashboard handouts for individual Iowa Senate and Iowa House districts. These handouts detail the high school graduation rate, FAFSA completion rate, average ACT score, and college-going rate for the district. The handouts also show the number of students receiving funds through the state's six largest aid programs, the number of GEAR UP Iowa schools, Course to College schools, College & Career Readiness Academy schools, and any Local College Access Networks in the district. Dr. Wiederspan explained the handouts demonstrate the breadth and depth of services Iowa College Aid provides. Senator Quirnbach shared that he has reviewed several of the dashboards and feels they will help guide decisions with regard to higher education, as well as an opportunity for dialogue. In response to a question from Commissioner Sloniker, Dr. Wiederspan verified the dashboard handouts would be made available to Commissioners.

Dr. Wiederspan announced the receipt of a grant from the State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO). The funds will be used to help automate and streamline Iowa College Aid's postsecondary school authorization process. Additionally, the award provides access to a learning community for professional development, technical assistance from SHEEO, and peer learning opportunities. Dr. Wiederspan added that Iowa is one of eight states selected for this award.

Meeting Minutes

Motion: Commissioner Shull moved to approve the November 15, 2019, Meeting Minutes as written. Commissioner Bates seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Administrative Rule Waiver Petition

Mr. Brown explained there are two recommended actions before the Commission.

The first recommended action is to approve the petition for a waiver to Iowa Administrative Code 283-24.2 (Rural Iowa Primary Care Loan Repayment Program).

The second recommended action is to direct Commission staff to amend the definitions of eligible service commitment area in Iowa Administrative Code 283 to measure the 20-mile distance between cities by the shortest travel distance on paved roads.

Mr. Brown said the Rural Iowa Primary Care Loan Repayment Program provides up to \$200,000 in loan repayment benefits to physicians who graduate from Des Moines University or the University of Iowa, complete an Iowa-based residency program, and serve in an eligible service commitment area for up to five consecutive years.

In law, the definition of an eligible service commitment area is a city in Iowa with a population of less than 26,000 that is located more than 20 miles from a city with a population of 50,000 or more. In rule, the process of measuring that 20-mile distance is defined by using the straightline distance between post offices. In this case, the Administrative Rule is more stringent than Iowa Code requirements. Measuring by the straightline distance, the communities of Waverly and Shell Rock are not eligible communities. Measuring by paved road travel distance, both Waverly and Shell Rock would be eligible.

Because Waverly Health Clinic is in the process of trying to recruit these two physicians, staff proposes to waive that portion of Chapter 24 to allow these individuals to receive funds under the Rural Iowa Primary Care Loan Repayment Program in this specific instance.

The second recommended action is for staff to clean up any definitions in the Commission's Administrative Rules that prescribe a similar method of measuring distance.

Motion: Commissioner Fitzgibbon moved to approve the petition for a waiver to Iowa Administrative Code 283-24.2 (Rural Iowa Primary Care Loan Repayment Program), relating to the requirement that the 20-mile limit be measured using straightline distances between post offices in the definition of eligible service commitment area for two doctors who will practice at the Waverly Health Center in Waverly and Shell Rock. Commissioner Varner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

For the first recommended action, Ms. Willits asked if anyone representing the clinic or physicians was present to speak. Mr. Brown said there was not. He said representatives had intended to attend but he had advised them the item was likely to be non-controversial.

Senator Quirnbach added he would prefer to change the rule rather than provide exception. He said he had asked Mr. Brown during the Legislative Meeting to look into the time it would take to change the rule as opposed to granting an exception. Mr. Brown said the time it would take to review and make changes to the applicable Administrative

Rule sections would be prohibitive in this instance. The Administrative Rules process from notice to adoption generally takes up to nine months. This is beyond the point in time where Waverly Health Clinic needs a signed employment contract with at least one of these physicians. Senator Quirnbach concluded the urgency for meeting the needs of these communities makes the exception appropriate, and there is a clear intent to change the rule. He added the intent of the legislation is to enhance the service provider capability of geographically isolated communities and that isolation should be defined and measured by the routes taken to the facilities.

Commissioner Bates agreed, adding that she lived in a rural community and worked in a rural hospital. She noted the difficulty of recruiting physicians. She stated the importance of keeping Iowa-educated physicians in the state. Mr. Brown estimated the rule amendments would be available for Commission consideration in March.

Motion: Commissioner Fitzgibbon moved to direct Commission staff to amend definitions of eligible service commitment area in Iowa Administrative Code 283 to measure the 20-mile distance between cities by the shortest travel distance on paved roads. Commissioner Bates seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

GEAR UP Iowa Evaluation Adviser Contract Extension

Ms. Sibaouih explained the request to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a one-year extension contract for outside evaluation advisory services for the GEAR UP Iowa project with the National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP).

Ms. Sibaouih said the GEAR UP Iowa 2.0 project model does not use an external evaluator but a hybrid model, which necessitates independent review and audit of the evaluation plan, data collection and evaluation procedures, design, and reports. In 2015, the Commission authorized a contract with NCCEP, the national partner for GEAR UP grant training and technical assistance. This extension would allow services in Year 6 of the grant.

The extension allows staff to evaluate the efficacy of the GEAR UP Iowa program properly. Commissioner Fitzgibbon asked if there was an increase in the cost extension. Ms. Sibaouih advised that the cost had actually decreased from the initial agreement. Ms. Sibaouih verified the completed evaluation would be shared with the Commission.

Motion: Commissioner Sloniker moved to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a one-year extension contract for outside evaluation advisory services for the GEAR UP Iowa project with the National

Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP).
Commissioner Stork seconded the motion, which passed
unanimously.

GEAR UP Iowa Scholarship Name

Commissioner Mulholland introduced a recommended action to rename the GEAR UP Iowa Scholarship as the Karen Misjak GEAR UP Iowa Scholarship. The GEAR UP Iowa program provides the scholarships to students served by the program, meaning they attended high school in a low-income district in Iowa. GEAR UP Iowa has provided college access and awareness services to these students throughout the grant. Commissioner Mulholland added that Ms. Misjak has championed the GEAR UP program in Iowa from the beginning, so it is fitting the scholarship should carry her name.

Motion: Commissioner Shull moved that the GEAR UP Iowa Scholarship henceforth be known as the Karen Misjak GEAR UP Iowa Scholarship, in recognition of Karen Misjak's retirement and in honor of her 5 years of dedicated service to the students and families of Iowa, and especially her tireless support of the GEAR UP Iowa program to improve college access for low-income students. Commissioner Atwood seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Mulholland mentioned that the U.S. Department of Education approved the change of name for the scholarship. Senator Quirmbach praised Ms. Misjak's program leadership. Commissioner Mulholland presented Ms. Misjak with an official certificate documenting the motion. Ms. Misjak thanked the commission for the honor.

Annual Report Presentation

Ms. Keest Sedrel presented the Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Report and highlighted key areas. Ms. Keest Sedrel reminded Commissioners the report is a snapshot of FY2019.

In a response to a question from Senator Quirmbach concerning student loan debt, Dr. Wiederspan clarified that the average loan debt measure was conditional on first time, full-time students taking out loans.

Senator Quirmbach asked if schools have implemented the financial literacy graduation requirement before the legislative deadline. Ms. Sibaouih answered that feedback she has received has been mostly confusion about required steps. Senator Quirmbach

explained that the requirements appear to be more detailed than what is normally legislated and asked staff to share any feedback received from schools.

Representative Winckler said she and Representative Dolecheck have discussed the financial literacy graduation requirement. She said schools were meeting the K-12 financial literacy requirement in different ways and stated that financial literacy education needs to occur throughout a child's development.

Future Ready Iowa Presentation

Dr. Wiederspan introduced the Future Ready Iowa presentation, explaining it was developed to display initial program results to Commissioners, the Governor, and interested legislators. The presentation highlights the work staff have done and illustrates the program's success in the short time it has been available.

Mr. Brown shared updated Last-Dollar Scholarship and Future Ready Iowa Grant award information. The Last-Dollar Scholarship fall 2019 distributions totaled \$6.8 million of the \$13 million appropriation. During the same timeframe, the Future Ready Iowa Grant awarded \$32,000 of the \$1 million appropriation. Mr. Brown explained the criteria for the Future Ready Iowa Grant are stringent and potential recipients are difficult to identify, and described the process staff used for Future Ready Iowa Grant outreach.

Mr. Brown described the process for developing and implementing the Future Ready Iowa program legislation. He said the Iowa College Aid Processing System (ICAPS) had to be updated quickly to ensure timely distribution of program awards. In addition, 23 pages of new awarding guidance have been published for the Future Ready Iowa programs to ensure colleges calculate and award funds from these programs consistently.

Senator Quirnbach asked if the criteria for the Future Ready Iowa Grant program was too narrow or was the timeframe too short. Mr. Brown said both timing of the program start and the narrow criteria contributed to low take-up. He said the awards in spring and next fall might show a better measure of the program efficacy. Senator Quirnbach asked if any legislative vehicles were addressing possible program changes to the Grant. Mr. Brown said he was not aware of any statutory changes pending for the current legislative session.

Representative Winckler said she had put in a request to remove the requirement that Future Ready Iowa Grant recipients be out of college for two years. She expressed concern that the program could be eliminated if numbers did not rise and asked others to advocate for the program.

Ms. Sibaouih presented the AmeriCorps contribution to the Last-Dollar Scholarship Program. The current AmeriCorps model of placing success coaches in high schools was expanded to college campuses. The success coaches function as a bridge to get students to campus and enrolled in classes. They also connect students to career mentors provided by Volunteer Iowa. Although there are only three members placed currently, they have reached over 2,000 Last-Dollar Scholarship recipients.

Ms. Sibaouih reported the texting program has launched with a positive initial buy-in from students. Staff worked with community colleges to embed the opt-in option in school financial aid awards. Ms. Sibaouih stressed that the messages are more than reminders; they connect students to a virtual coach. Staff has directly responded to more than 200 students. Staff are identifying the best resources to answer questions being received, ensuring students can be directly connected to essential contacts on campus, and that the burden does not rest with the student to follow-up or find a solution to their issue. Ms. Sibaouih said the texting program success depends on community college participation and the recruitment of success coaches.

Ms. Keest Sedrel outlined the promotional strategy for the Future Ready Iowa program. She said the Last-Dollar Scholarship brochure was widely shared by Workforce Development, the Governor's Office, and Iowa College Aid. Additionally, staff produced a suite of postcards explaining the Future Ready Iowa initiatives, posters, fliers, and social media campaigns. Iowa College Aid's Digital Editor has been invited to help additional agencies launch social media campaigns based on the success of the Last-Dollar Scholarship campaign.

Commissioner Mulholland expressed appreciation for the work done by staff in a short amount of time to get the funds out to help the students. She thanked staff for their dedicated work to launch the Future Ready Iowa programs.

Staff Reports

Ms. Bujimalla provided updated financials through December 2019.

Ms. Small delivered the report on Postsecondary Registration Approvals, Exemption, and SARA approvals. She asked Commissioners to turn to the Non-Compliance Warning section of the report. Since the Order to Show Cause was issued, staff have received a valid bond from Inspirit Institute, effective on the day of the last Commission meeting. Ms. Small stated that the owner of Inspirit Institute appears to be making necessary changes to come into compliance. She recommended the Commission take no further action on the Order to Show Cause at this time. Staff will continue to monitor Inspirit Institute's progress

toward compliance in the hope of being able to make a recommendation to dismiss the Order to Show Cause during the March Commission meeting.

Ms. Small reported Iowa Wesleyan University's plan to merge with St. Leo University has been canceled. She reported that Iowa Wesleyan indicated the school is not at risk of financial distress at this time. Their board intends to focus on sourcing a local partnership. She said Iowa Wesleyan has committed to keeping staff informed of future happenings.

Senator Quirnbach asked if Iowa Wesleyan held any debt under the Higher Education Loan Authority. Ms. Small said she did not know. Senator Quirnbach said the state might have to satisfy any debts incurred under this authority if the school should default. Senator Quirnbach also expressed interest in the status of the U.S Department of Agriculture loan to Iowa Wesleyan, as any negative outcome from Iowa Wesleyan could impact other institutions in Iowa. Ms. Small advised that the Commission does not have authority to regulate Iowa Wesleyan under registration laws. Information received from Iowa Wesleyan is at their discretion. She can ask Iowa Wesleyan how comfortable they would be in releasing that information publicly. Senator Quirnbach said the welfare of the students at Iowa Wesleyan is of interest to the Commission. If the Commission is responsible for those state dollars, there is a responsibility to inquire.

Legislative Committee Report

Commissioner Ash yielded the floor to Mr. Brown.

Mr. Brown said the second week of the 2020 legislative session had concluded. He provided a handout and discussed the Governor's recommendations for FY2021. He reported the recommended changes to specific programs as well as to the general and administrative funds.

Mr. Brown indicated the bill request deadline was January 24, 2020, and provided the bill watch report. Additionally, there is a link on the website to view the status of bills that are monitored by staff.

Representative Winckler asked if the limit for unspent appropriations needed to be raised or if it was adequate. Mr. Brown said there is a Scholarship and Grant Reserve Fund that could be used to alleviate any current year shortfalls. Approximately 1% of unspent appropriations can be directed to this reserve fund. While that amount has been sufficient, an increase of that percentage would be beneficial.

Audit and Finance Committee Report

Commissioner Fitzgibbon said there was nothing additional to add to Ms. Bujimalla's financials report.

Board Structure Subcommittee Report

Commissioner Mulholland said the Board Structure Subcommittee did not meet. The next scheduled meeting will address current and future work.

Community Engagement Subcommittee Report

Commissioner Mulholland said the Community Engagement Subcommittee did not meet due to the weather. She advised Commissioners to watch for the meeting to be rescheduled.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Fitzgibbon reported meeting a GEAR UP Iowa student from Des Moines Public Schools. She had created a startup program to link students to employers. He said the student was an example of Iowa's future and he was very impressed.

Dr. Wiederspan reminded Commissioners that Ms. Misjak's retirement reception will be held at 1:30 p.m. in this room.

Commissioner Mulholland said the next Commission Meetings are scheduled on March 20 by phone and May 15 at the Iowa College Aid office.

Commissioner Shull moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Bates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Katie Mulholland, Chair

Doug Shull, Vice Chair

IOWA COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION

Administrative Rules

March 2020

Recommended Action:

Move to propose amendments to Administrative Rules:

- Chapter 24 – *"Rural Iowa Primary Care Loan Repayment Program"*
- Chapter 25 – *"Rural Iowa Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant Loan Repayment Program"*
- Chapter 26 – *"Health Care Loan Repayment Program"*

COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION [283]

Notice of Intended Action

Proposing rule making related to rural Iowa primary care loan repayment program, rural Iowa advanced registered nurse practitioner and physician assistant loan repayment program, health care loan repayment program, and providing an opportunity for public comment.

The Iowa College Student Aid Commission hereby proposes to amend Chapter 24, “Rural Iowa Primary Care Loan Repayment Program,” Chapter 25, “Rural Iowa Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant Loan Repayment Program,” and Chapter 26, “Health Care Loan Repayment Program,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rule Making

This rule making is proposed under the authority provided in 261.3.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rule making implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code chapter 261.

Purpose and Summary

The amendments specify that distances between cities, corresponding to the definition of service commitment area, are measured and verified by calculating the shortest travel distance on paved roads.

Fiscal Impact

This rule making has no fiscal impact to the state of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rule making would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any, pursuant to 283 – Chapter 7.

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit comments concerning this proposed rule making. Written comments in response to this rule making must be received by the Commission no later than 4:30 p.m. on April 28, 2020. Comments should be directed to:

Mark Wiederspan
Executive Director
College Student Aid Commission
475 S.W. Fifth Street, Suite D
Des Moines, Iowa 50309-4608
Phone: 515-725-3410
Fax: 515-725-3401
Email: mark.wiederspan@iowa.gov or administrative rules website at <https://rules.iowa.gov>.

Public Hearing

No public hearing is scheduled at this time. As provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1) “b,” an oral presentation regarding this rule making may be demanded by 25 interested persons, a governmental subdivision, the Administrative Rules Review Committee, an agency, or an association having 25 or more members.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rule making by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rule making at its regular monthly meeting or at a special meeting. The Committee’s meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

The following rule making action proposed:

ITEM 1. Amend rule 283—24.2(261) as follows:

283—24.2(261) Definitions. As used in this chapter:

“*Service commitment area*” means a medically underserved Iowa city with a population of less than 26,000 that is located more than 20 miles from a city with a population of 50,000 or more. Each physician participating in the program must contract with the service commitment area to ensure the service commitment area provides a nonrefundable \$20,000 contribution for deposit in the rural Iowa primary care trust fund. Payment of the nonrefundable contribution to the trust fund can be made by, but is not limited to, the following organizations: community agencies, hospitals, medical groups, municipalities, community foundations, local government entities, or other community entities. Locations and distances between cities will be consistently measured and verified by calculating the shortest travel distance on paved roads ~~straight-line distance between main post offices.~~

ITEM 2. Amend rule 283—25.2(261) as follows:

283—25.2(261) Definitions. As used in this chapter:

“*Service commitment area*” means a medically underserved Iowa city with a population of less than 26,000 that is located more than 20 miles from a city with a population of 50,000 or more. Each applicant participating in the program must contract with the service commitment area to ensure the service commitment area provides a nonrefundable \$2,000 contribution for deposit in the rural Iowa advanced registered nurse practitioner and physician assistant trust fund. Payment of the nonrefundable contribution to the trust fund can be made by, but is not limited to, the following organizations: community agencies, hospitals, medical groups, municipalities, community foundations, local government entities, or other community entities. Locations and distances between cities will be consistently measured and verified by calculating the shortest travel distance on paved roads. ~~the straight-line distance between main post offices.~~

ITEM 3. Amend rule 283—26.2(261) as follows:

283—26.2(261) Definitions. As used in this chapter:

“*Service commitment area*” means a city in Iowa with a population of less than 26,000 that is located more than 20 miles from a city with a population of 50,000 or more. Locations and distances between cities will be consistently measured and verified by calculating the shortest travel distance on paved roads.

IOWA COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION

Gold Bridge, Inc. Contract Extension

March 2020

Recommended Action:

Authorize staff to exercise the option for a one-year extension of the State Scholarship, Grant and Loan Repayment Application and Processing System contract with Gold Bridge Partners, Inc.

Overview:

The Commission signed a contract in June 2014 with Gold Bridge Partners, Inc. (GBPI), for customization, configuration and implementation of a secure web-based system, developed specifically for the administration of grant, scholarship and loan repayment programs. The original contract covered a one-year period (June 9, 2014 – June 30, 2015) with the option of five one-year renewals. In addition to those allowed under the original contract, the Commission authorized four more one-year renewals in November 2019. This action represents the first of the additional four allowable renewal terms, covering the term July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 (7th year of contract).

Staff has been pleased with the performance of GBPI thus far. The system, the Iowa College Aid Processing System (ICAPS®), has streamlined the administration and distribution of the grant and scholarship programs.

The following represents the expenses outlined in the contract:

Milestone Event	Year 7 FY21	Year 8 FY22	Year 9 FY23	Year 10 FY24
Hardware & Software Upgrades	\$210,500*	\$0	\$0	\$0
Hosting	\$59,637	\$62,637	\$65,637	\$68,637
Maintenance & Support	\$112,692	\$118,692	\$124,692	\$130,692

*Estimated cost. Purchasing hardware and software through state channels may reduce total.

Iowa College Student Aid Commission

FUND: '0163

STRATEGIC RESERVE FUND RECONCILIATION

FY 2020 As of February 29, 2020

Beginning Balance As of 07-01-2019 \$27,276,602

REVENUES:

Federal Support ¹	661,030
Intra-State Transfers ²	248,266
Conference Registration Fees	9,356
Interest	278,364
Great Lakes Payments	2,504,371

TOTAL REVENUES COLLECTED: \$3,701,387

EXPENDITURES:

Salary and Benefits	1,769,758
Travel	67,695
Office Supplies & Postage	23,276
Printing & Binding	72,616
Advertising & Publicity	10,434
Communications	23,267
Rentals	98,662
Prof & Scientific Services	84,166
Sub Grant Pymts & Outside Services	682,800
Intra-State Transfers	105,928
Office Equipment	-
IT Equipment, Software & Services	430,340
Miscellaneous Expenses	7,442
State Aid/Transfer to Trust Acct	-
Aid to Individuals (Scholarships)	31,162

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: (\$3,407,546)

Ending Balance As of February 29, 2020 \$27,570,444

Difference \$293,842

Bankers Trust GEAR UP Trust Fund Balance **\$12,527,366**

Cash Basis Report

GEAR UP and AmeriCorps Grants¹

Volunteer Iowa, Partnership Loan Program, IOWAccess Citizen Grant²

**Iowa College Student Aid Commission
Operating Expenditure Summary
FY 2020 As of February 29, 2020**

Class Name	FY 2020 Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance	Actual as % of FY 20 Budget
Revenues					
State Appropriation	559,533	373,022	502,301	129,279	89.77%
Postsecondary Fees	228,000	152,000	235,000	83,000	103.07%
Interest Revenue	338,060	225,373	279,746	54,373	82.75%
PLP - Dept of Revenue	75,000	50,000	49,366	(634)	65.82%
Receipts from Other State Agencies ¹	308,747	205,831	195,359	(10,472)	63.27%
IOWAccess Citizen Facing Website Grant	16,696	11,131	-	(11,131)	0.00%
Conference Registration Fees	-	-	9,356	9,356	0.00%
Great Lakes Payments	3,345,231	2,230,154	2,504,371	274,217	74.86%
Federal Awards/Grants					
<i>GEAR UP 2.0 Trust Fund Transfer</i>	1,603,175	1,068,783	-	(1,068,783)	0.00%
<i>GEAR UP 2.0 Scholarship</i>	2	1	16,750	16,749	-
<i>GEAR UP Subgrants</i>	1,146,555	764,370	403,943	(360,427)	35.23%
<i>State Aid to ETV Foster Care</i>	508,396	338,931	501,086	162,155	98.56%
<i>Other²</i>	712,616	475,078	317,792	(157,286)	44.60%
Subtotal Federal Awards/Grants	3,970,744	2,647,163	1,239,571	(1,407,592)	31.22%
Total Revenues:	\$8,842,011	\$5,894,674	\$5,015,070	(\$879,604)	56.72%
Expenditures					
Salary and Benefits	4,443,347	2,962,231	2,470,626	(491,605)	55.60%
Travel	160,974	107,316	68,732	(38,584)	42.70%
Office Supplies & Postage	84,712	56,475	24,290	(32,185)	28.67%
Printing & Binding	151,301	100,867	72,616	(28,251)	47.99%
Advertising & Publicity	157,125	104,750	10,434	(94,316)	6.64%
Communications (ICN and Cellular)	45,991	30,661	23,876	(6,785)	51.91%
Rentals	182,764	121,843	98,662	(23,181)	53.98%
Prof & Scientific Services ³	286,180	190,787	84,166	(106,621)	29.41%
Outside Services	189,139	126,093	65,440	(60,653)	34.60%
<i>CE Subgrants</i>	605,000	403,333	213,418	(189,915)	35.28%
Intra-State Reimbursement	75,080	50,053	54,472	4,419	72.55%
IT Equip. & Software/Outside Repairs/Service	692,237	461,491	522,565	61,074	75.49%
Expenditures from Federal Awards/Grants					
<i>GEAR UP 2.0 Trust Fund Transfer</i>	1,603,175	1,068,783	-	(1,068,783)	0.00%
<i>GEAR UP 2.0 Scholarship</i>	2	1	31,162	31,161	-
<i>GEAR UP Subgrants</i>	1,146,555	764,370	403,943	(360,427)	35.23%
<i>State Aid to ETV Foster Care</i>	508,396	338,931	501,086	162,155	98.56%
Subtotal Federal Awards/Grants	3,258,128	2,172,085	936,191	(1,235,894)	28.73%
ETV Unexpended funds/Postsecondary			75,741		
Total Expenditures:	\$10,331,978	\$6,887,985	\$4,645,488	(\$2,242,497)	44.96%
Net Income/ Loss	(\$1,489,967)	(\$993,311)	\$293,841		
Receipts from Volunteer Iowa and other state agencies¹					
AmeriCorps Grant and administrative expense reimbursements from GEAR UP and ETV grants²					
Consultant and professional fees for Community Engagement and GEAR UP & Website update expenses³					
Operating Expenditure Summary includes State Appropriation, ETV federal funds and Postsecondary Registration Fund.					

**Iowa College Student Aid Commission
Summary of Resources and Expenditures
FY 2020 Program Summary As of February 29, 2020**

	STATE APPROPRIATED PROGRAMS	STATE MANDATED/UNFUNDED PROGRAMS RELATED TO CHAPTER 261 OF IOWA CODE	POSTSECONDARY REGISTRATION	FEDERAL GRANT/PROGRAMS	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	PLP, FFELP (GREAT LAKES)	TOTALS
FY 2020 Number of Programs	12	5	1	4	3	2	27
FY 2020 State Scholarships/Grants/Loan Repayment Programs	79,060,087	-	-	-	-	-	79,060,087
FY 2020 Appropriation for Administration	502,301	-	-	-	-	-	502,301
FY 2020 State Fees, Interest & Reimbursements	-	-	236,382	186,000	-	2,850,817	3,273,199
FY 2020 Fed Awards/Grants:							
Payment to Scholarship Trust	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sub Grants/Admin. Expense Reimbursements	-	-	-	664,571	-	-	664,571
ETV Federal Grant Reimbursement	-	-	-	575,000	-	-	575,000
Total Revenues:	502,301	-	236,382	1,425,571	-	2,850,817	5,015,071
Personnel	479,302	121,061	303,887	980,839	573,185	12,353	2,470,626
Travel	13,334	3,368	8,454	27,286	15,946	344	68,732
Supplies, Printing & Binding, Postage	18,800	4,748	11,919	38,472	22,482	485	96,906
Support-Rent, Communication, Prof/Outside Service	52,796	13,335	33,474	108,041	63,137	1,361	272,144
Legal, Audit and State Reimbursements	9,124	2,304	5,785	18,671	10,911	235	47,030
Advertising & Publicity	2,024	511	1,283	4,142	2,421	52	10,434
State Transfers/IT Expenses	102,821	25,970	65,191	210,413	122,962	2,650	530,007
Total Operating Cost	678,201	171,298	429,993	1,387,864	811,044	17,479	3,495,879
Scholarships/Grants/Loan Repayment Programs	69,680,402	12,334	-	31,162	-	-	69,723,898
Aid to individuals (ETV)	-	-	-	501,086	-	-	501,086
Payment to Scholarship Trust (Bankers Trust Fund)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants to K-12 Schools/Communities (Sub Grants)	-	-	-	403,943	213,418	-	617,360
Total Expenditures (Incl. Scholarship)	70,358,603	183,632	429,993	2,324,055	1,024,462	17,479	74,338,224
Fund Committed for Scholarship and Aid	9,400,875	-	-	-	-	-	9,400,875
Unexpended Funds for ETV/Postsecondary	-	-	36,671	39,070	-	-	75,741
<i>Net Gain / Loss</i>	<i>(175,900)</i>	<i>(171,298)</i>	<i>(230,282)</i>	<i>(937,554)</i>	<i>(1,024,462)</i>	<i>2,833,338</i>	<i>293,842</i>
Overall % of Total Expense	94.65%	0.25%	0.58%	3.13%	1.38%	0.02%	100.00%

IOWA COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION

Postsecondary Registrations, SARA and Exemptions Reports

March 2020

Postsecondary Registration Approvals

Staff has approved the following noncontroversial registration applications since the last written report to Commissioners in January of 2020.

- Graceland University (voluntary, in-state renewal)

Postsecondary Registration Applications Under Review

Standard Initial or Renewal Applications

- Faith Baptist Bible College and Theological Seminary (voluntary, in-state renewal)
- Little Priest Tribal College
- Body Wisdom Massage Therapy School
- Brandman University (out-of-state mandatory initial application)
- Chicago School of Professional Psychology (out-of-state mandatory initial application)
- Fuller Theological Seminary (out-of-state mandatory initial application)
- National Louis University (out-of-state mandatory renewal application)
- San Joaquin Valley College (out-of-state)
- Ultimate Medical Academy (out-of-state mandatory renewal application)
- University of Southern California (out-of-state mandatory renewal application)
- Ashford University (out-of-state mandatory renewal application)
- Clarks Summit University (out-of-state mandatory initial application)
- Saybrook University (out-of-state mandatory initial application)
- Western Illinois University
- Purdue University Global (out-of-state mandatory initial app)
- Trident University International

Change of Ownership/Governance/Control

- Carrington College (out-of-state)
- DeVry University (out-of-state)
- Northcentral University (out-of-state)
- South University (out-of-state)

Postsecondary registration evaluation reports for approved schools are available upon request.

Initial Iowa SARA Approvals

- Antioch School of Church Planting and Leadership Development

Initial Iowa SARA Applications Under Review

- Wartburg College

Iowa SARA Renewal Approvals

- Graceland University
- Mercy College of Health Sciences
- Briar Cliff University
- Morningside College

Iowa SARA Renewal Applications Under Review

- Faith Baptist Bible College and Theological Seminary
- Northwestern College

Iowa Exempt School Approvals

- American Hair Academy
- LeMars Beauty College
- Wartburg College
- Emmaus Bible College
- MercyOne North Iowa Medical Center

Iowa Exempt School Applications under Review

- Northwestern College
- New Horizon Computer Learning – Hiawatha
- Faust Institute
- Iowa Diesel Training Academy
- UnityPoint Health – Des Moines School of Radiologic Technology
- Clippertonomics Academy
- Iowa Wesleyan
- Inspirit Institute
- East West School of Integrative Healing Arts
- Bio-Chi Institute of Massage Therapy
- Kindred Spirits School of Taxidermy
- Siouxland Pipe Welding
- World of Beauty
- The Salon Professional Academy

- The Nail Tech Institute of Iowa
- Zeal Salon Spa & Academy

IOWA COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION

Legislative Committee Report

March 2020

The Legislative Committee met prior to the Commission Meeting. Committee Chair, Commissioners Ash, will provide a report to the Commission.

IOWA COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION

Audit and Finance Committee Report

March 2020

The Audit and Finance Committee met prior to the Commission Meeting. Committee Chair, Commissioner Fitzgibbon, will provide a report to the Commission.